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PENNSYLVANIA'S

LABOR FORCE

..... A Monthly Statistical Analysis

HIGHLIGHTS

- Pennsylvania's joblessness rose in September,as the statewide rate of unemployment moved up to 5.5 percent, seasonally adjusted, from 4.9 percent in August.
- Nonfarm jobs increased by 21,600 in September to a total of 5,137,700. This was 1,200 higher than in September 1989.
- Average weekly hours and earnings for production workers in Pennsylvania manufacturing industries recorded small decreases again during August. The average workweek still held above 40 hours.
- Claims totals underwent a sharp decline in August, however they remained well above year-ago levels.
- Sixty-five counties recorded lower unemployment rates in August than in July.
- A new publication is available comparing Pennsylvania's Unemployment Insurance Program to other states.

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ISSUED: OCTOBER 1990

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Robert P. Casey, Governor

Department of Labor and Industry Bureau of Research and Statistics

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Pennsylvania's Labor Force ....A Monthly Statistical Analysis
is published monthly by the Bureau of Research and Statistics.
Focusing on economic information and analysis, the publication is intended for a variety of users from business leaders, government administrators and planners to the general public.

ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO:
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS
LABOR AND INDUSTRY BUILDING
SEVENTH AND FORSTER STREETS
HARRISBURG, PA 17121

Analyst	Phone Number	Counties
Edward Murray	(215)560-1977	Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia Counties in PA; Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties in NJ
Kenneth Shockley	(215)378-4314	Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks Counties in PA; Warren County, NJ
James Mowad	(717)826-2538	Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Wyoming, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga
Fred Schneider	(717)771-1272	Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, Perry, Lancaster, Adams, York, Franklin, Fulton
Glenn Lynn	(717)327-3504	Centre, Lycoming, Potter, Juniata, Mifflin, Clinton, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union
William Findley	(814)533-2213	Blair, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Clearfield, Jefferson, Huntingdon, Elk, Cameron
William Cerani	(412)565-5350	Beaver, Allegheny, Fayette, Washington, Westmoreland, Butler Indiana, Armstrong, Lawrence, Greene
Carol Patterson	(814)871-4298	Erie, Mercer, McKean, Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren

CURRENT LABOR FORCE SITUATION

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES FOR SEPTEMBER 1990

Employment rose in September and Pennsylvania's labor force rebounded following several months of decline. Joblessness also rose as the statewide rate of unemployment moved up to 5.5 percent, seasonally adjusted, from 4.9 percent in August. The nationwide rate edged up to 5.7 percent in September from 5.6 percent in August.

Data, made available through the Current Population Survey of households, and released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, show September's seasonally adjusted labor force in Pennsylvania at 5,850,000, up 73,000 since August. This followed five consecutive months of decline from the March all-time high of 6,004,000. Much of the slippage during the summer months can be attributed to fewer youth looking for temporary jobs between school terms. Pennsylvania's high school and college age population is down significantly following the Baby-boom generation.

UNITED STATES & PENNSYLVANIA
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

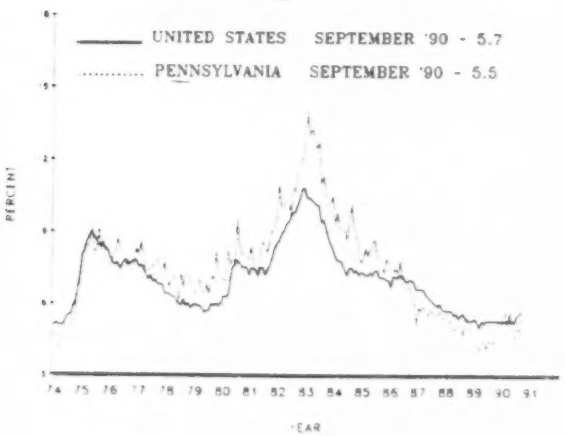

TABLE 1
TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
IN PENNSYLVANIA
(All persons in thousands)

RESIDENT DATA	SEPT. 1990	AUG. 1990	SEPT. 1989	NET CHANGE FROM AUG.	NET CHANGE FROM SEPT.
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,850	5,777	5,806	73	44
Employment	5,531	5,496	5,550	35	-19
Unemployment	319	281	256	38	-63
Rate of Unemployment (%)	5.5	4.9	4.4	0.6	1.1
UNADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,858	5,877	5,823	-19	35
Employment	5,561	5,624	5,588	-63	-27
Unemployment	297	253	235	44	62
Rate of Unemployment (%)	5.1	4.3	4.0	0.8	1.1

Employment, seasonally adjusted, was 5,531,000 in September, up 35,000 from August. This followed three months of decline in response to fewer summer youth and a softening national economy. Compared to one year ago, employment was down 19,000; but healthy gains are still apparent when compared to September 1987 (+151,000) and September 1986 (+259,000).

Among the eleven largest states for which seasonally adjusted data are available, Pennsylvania's 5.5 percent rate of unemployment in September ranked seventh, up from ninth in August. New Jersey and Ohio at 5.2 percent, and North Carolina at 3.7 percent were lower. New York was tied with Pennsylvania at 5.5 percent. Eight states, including Pennsylvania, had rate increases over the month and three had decreases.

TABLE 2
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	SEP. 1990 AP/	AUG. 1990 P/	JULY 1990	AUG. 1989	NET CHANGE TO AUG. 1990 FROM: JULY 1990	AUG. 1989
NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	5137.7	5116.1	5130.0	5116.4	-13.9	-0.3
---GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1308.0	1313.6	1308.2	1337.5	5.4	-23.9
MINING	26.9	26.8	27.2	27.4	-0.4	-0.6
CONSTRUCTION	250.3	253.3	251.7	255.6	1.6	-2.3
MANUFACTURING	1030.8	1033.5	1029.3	1054.5	4.2	-21.0
DURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	581.7	584.6	584.6	600.8	0.0	-16.2
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS		32.9	32.5	34.1	0.4	-1.2
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES		20.0	19.3	20.9	0.7	-0.9
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS		47.5	47.2	48.5	0.3	-1.0
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES		91.9	91.7	91.7	0.2	0.2
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS		89.8	89.6	92.0	0.2	-2.2
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY		110.2	110.7	110.5	-0.5	-0.3
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		82.1	81.4	86.7	0.7	-4.6
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT		53.4	55.0	55.9	-1.6	-2.5
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PRODUCTS		37.7	37.8	39.5	-0.1	-1.8
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING		19.1	19.4	21.0	-0.3	-1.9
NONDURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	449.1	448.9	444.7	453.7	4.2	-4.8
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS		94.6	93.1	93.3	1.5	1.3
TOBACCO MANUFACTURES		1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS		27.8	27.5	29.5	0.3	-1.7
APPAREL AND OTHER TEXTILE PRODS.		76.2	74.2	80.1	2.0	-3.9
PAPER AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		42.0	41.9	42.1	0.1	-0.1
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING		84.1	83.8	84.7	0.3	-0.6
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		61.2	61.1	60.5	0.1	0.7
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS		10.6	10.5	10.7	0.1	-0.1
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS		42.0	42.0	42.2	0.0	-0.2
LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS		9.3	9.5	9.5	-0.2	-0.2
---SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3825.3	3800.3	3820.5	3764.1	-20.2	36.2
TRANSPORTATION	150.5	143.6	143.5	145.4	0.1	-1.8
PUBLIC UTILITIES	104.9	106.0	106.0	92.0	0.0	14.0
COMMUNICATIONS		50.6	50.4	36.1	0.2	14.5
ELECTRIC, GAS AND SANITARY		55.4	55.6	55.9	-0.2	-0.5
WHOLESALE TRADE	281.7	283.2	283.7	282.1	-0.5	1.1
RETAIL TRADE	889.4	892.5	891.1	895.5	1.4	-3.0
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES		122.7	122.5	123.8	0.2	-1.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	295.7	298.3	300.1	300.7	-1.8	-2.4
FINANCE		142.2	143.0	145.3	-0.8	-3.1
INSURANCE		114.4	114.6	112.6	-0.2	1.8
REAL ESTATE		41.7	42.5	42.8	-0.8	-1.1
SERVICES	1426.5	1417.2	1421.9	1386.1	-4.7	31.1
BUSINESS SERVICES		207.4	206.9	204.1	0.5	3.3
HEALTH SERVICES		465.7	465.5	453.4	0.2	12.3
--HOSPITALS		255.0	254.6	246.2	0.4	8.8
LEGAL SERVICES		42.3	42.5	40.7	-0.2	1.6
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES		125.3	127.5	125.1	-2.2	0.2
SOCIAL SERVICES		100.8	101.1	96.5	-0.3	4.3
OTHER SERVICES		475.7	478.4	466.3	-2.7	9.4
GOVERNMENT	676.6	659.5	674.2	662.3	-14.7	-2.8
FEDERAL		143.8	147.8	144.2	-4.0	-0.4
STATE		145.0	144.8	143.1	0.2	1.9
LOCAL		370.7	381.6	375.0	-10.9	-4.3
---PERSONS IN LABOR-MGMT. DISPUTES	4.4	2.2	1.3	14.8	0.9	-12.6

AP/ = Advance preliminary, based on early survey returns.
P/ = Preliminary data.

PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYMENT REBOUNDS DURING SEPTEMBER

Advance preliminary figures from the survey of employer payrolls showed Pennsylvania's nonfarm employment increased by 21,600 in September to a total of 5,137,700. Compared to September 1989, the number of jobs in Pennsylvania has grown by 1,200. Goods producing industries lost 5,600 since August, while service producing industries added 25,000 jobs, bringing their total to 3,825,300.

This higher-than-normal increase was due largely to an unanticipated gain of 17,100 in the government sector, along with a larger-than-expected increase in services.

AUGUST JOB COUNT EXHIBITS WIDESPREAD WEAKNESS

Total nonfarm jobs throughout Pennsylvania's businesses and factories declined by 13,900 in August to a level of 5,116,100. Normally, during late summer, job totals begin a solid four-month upturn led by a typical August job boost of 5,000. Department analysts site Pennsylvania's reaction to a national economy beleaguered by inflationary pressures and trade deficits, among other factors, as a major contributor to our current job erosion situation.

As total jobs slipped below the year-ago level for the first time in seven years, latest job movements were less than the seasonal norm in nearly all major industry lines.

Goods producing industries gained 5,400 jobs to total 1,313,600 in August. Normally, the Commonwealth's late summer job gain among goods producers amounts to 8,000. Goods producing industries include construction, manufacturing, and mining.

Amid a sagging real estate market, contract construction employment rose by 1,600 since July as building and heavy construction both recorded modest job gains. Over the year construction jobs statewide were off by 2,300.

Manufacturing, currently at 1,033,500 jobs, added 4,200 to payrolls in August. Here, net jobs among durable (hard) goods industries remained relatively static as a 1,600 loss in transportation equipment was nearly countered by monthly gains of 700 each in furniture and fixtures and electronic equipment. Primary metals, on the upswing of late, gained 200 jobs in a movement counter to the 1,400 job loss normally forthcoming in August. Since August 1989, primary metals jobs were up by 200.

Nondurables, up a net 4,200 jobs, were paced by gains in all lines except leather, as tobacco and rubber products held firm at July employment levels. Apparel (+2,000 jobs) and food products (+1,500 jobs) were the largest job gainers with the latter also displaying significant improvement (+1,300 jobs) over the year.

After setting record job levels for four consecutive months, the services industry recorded its second straight loss--down 4,700 to 1,417,200. Normally a job loss of 100 is expected for this period. Within services, educational services alone trimmed 2,200 jobs.

EMPLOYERS

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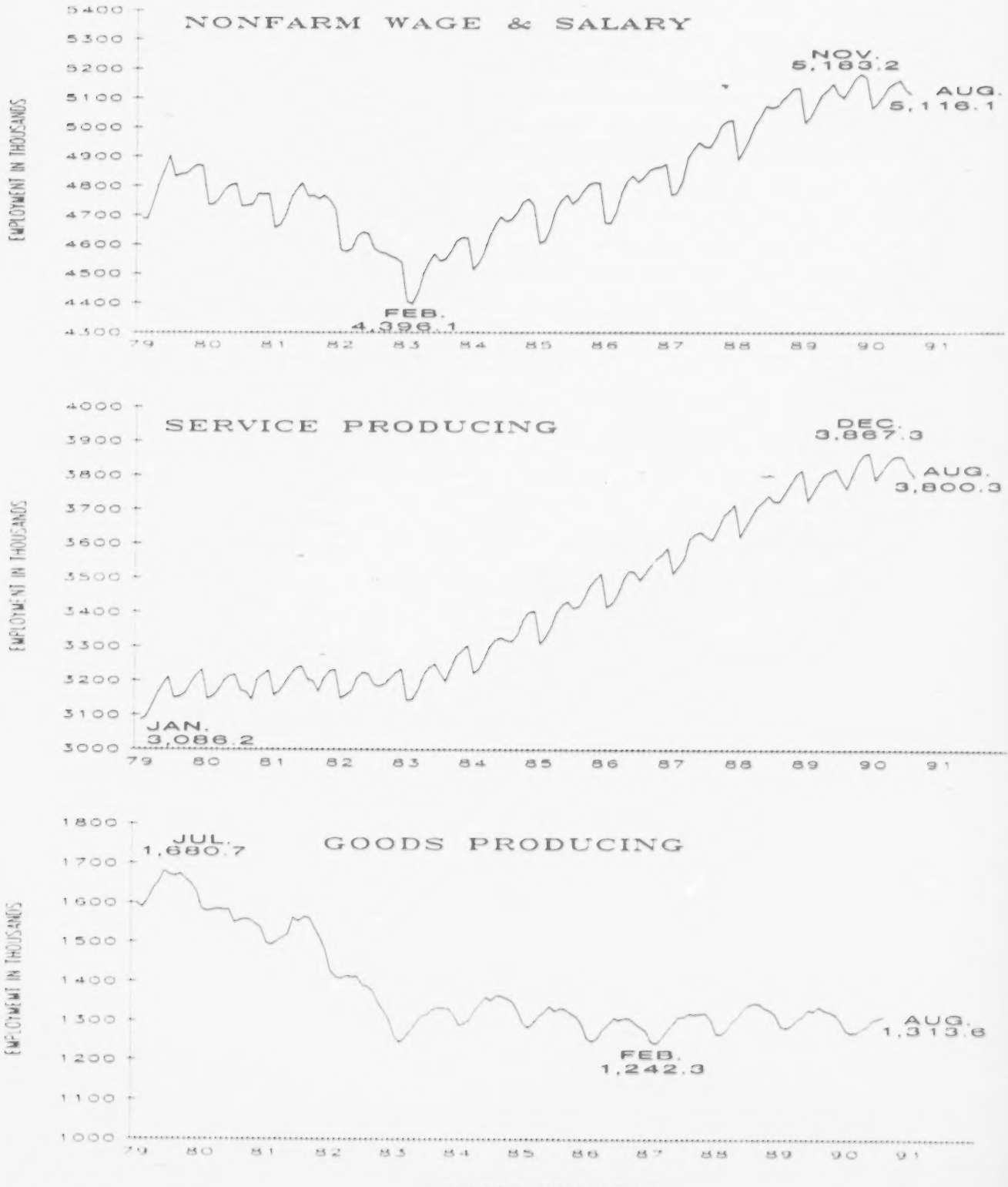
PENNSYLVANIA WAGE & SALARY JOBS
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA



HOURS AND EARNINGS

TABLE 3
PENNSYLVANIA HOURS AND EARNINGS
OF MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

INDUSTRY TITLE	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	AUG. 1990 P/	JULY 1990	AUG. 1989	AUG. 1990 P/	JULY 1990	AUG. 1989	AUG. 1990 P/	JULY 1990	AUG. 1989
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
COAL MINING	$723.28	$670.05	$660.56	44.4	41.8	40.7	$16.29	$16.03	$16.23
NONMETALLIC MINERALS	524.78	505.34	510.50	46.4	45.2	47.8	11.31	11.18	10.68
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	447.82	449.74	434.77	40.6	40.7	40.9	11.03	11.05	10.63
DURABLE GOODS	484.31	489.72	472.63	41.5	42.0	41.9	11.67	11.66	11.28
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS	373.06	371.68	354.64	40.2	40.4	40.3	9.28	9.20	8.80
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	365.52	367.61	375.14	40.3	40.8	40.6	9.07	9.01	9.24
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODS.	483.78	479.28	474.14	42.4	42.3	42.6	11.41	11.33	11.13
PRIMARY METALS	584.02	581.19	547.84	42.6	43.6	42.7	13.24	13.33	12.83
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	462.04	461.62	455.34	41.7	41.7	42.2	11.08	11.07	10.79
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY	520.51	517.88	503.96	42.7	42.8	43.0	12.19	12.10	11.72
ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC MACH.	450.36	456.12	442.44	41.7	42.0	41.7	10.80	10.86	10.61
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	524.19	539.74	526.85	38.8	40.4	41.0	13.51	13.36	12.85
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PROD.	462.58	474.24	439.97	40.9	41.6	40.7	11.31	11.40	10.81
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES	437.60	425.58	401.80	40.0	39.7	39.2	10.94	10.72	10.25
NONDURABLE GOODS	399.29	398.43	384.73	39.3	39.1	39.5	10.16	10.19	9.74
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS	452.39	448.23	437.72	40.5	40.2	41.1	11.17	11.15	10.65
TOBACCO PRODUCTS	281.80	279.60	273.57	40.9	40.0	41.2	6.89	6.99	6.64
TEXTILE PRODUCTS	320.62	313.05	297.47	39.1	38.6	39.4	8.20	8.11	7.55
APPAREL AND RELATED PRODUCTS	234.50	233.90	227.10	35.0	34.6	35.1	6.70	6.76	6.47
PAPER PRODUCTS	494.60	496.51	496.69	43.5	43.1	43.8	11.37	11.52	11.34
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	440.83	443.51	431.55	38.2	38.3	38.6	11.54	11.58	11.18
CHEMICAL AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	554.04	553.32	533.34	42.1	42.4	41.7	13.16	13.05	12.79
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS	595.60	603.32	597.32	40.0	40.6	41.8	14.89	14.86	14.29
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS	414.50	410.11	394.54	41.7	41.3	41.4	9.94	9.93	9.53
LEATHER PRODUCTS	273.15	254.55	269.39	38.8	37.6	39.5	7.04	6.77	6.82
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
COMMUNICATIONS	580.09	569.21	520.61	40.2	40.6	39.5	14.43	14.02	13.18
ELECTRIC, GAS, & SANITARY	685.95	690.46	670.88	42.5	42.7	42.3	16.14	16.17	15.86

P/ = Preliminary Data

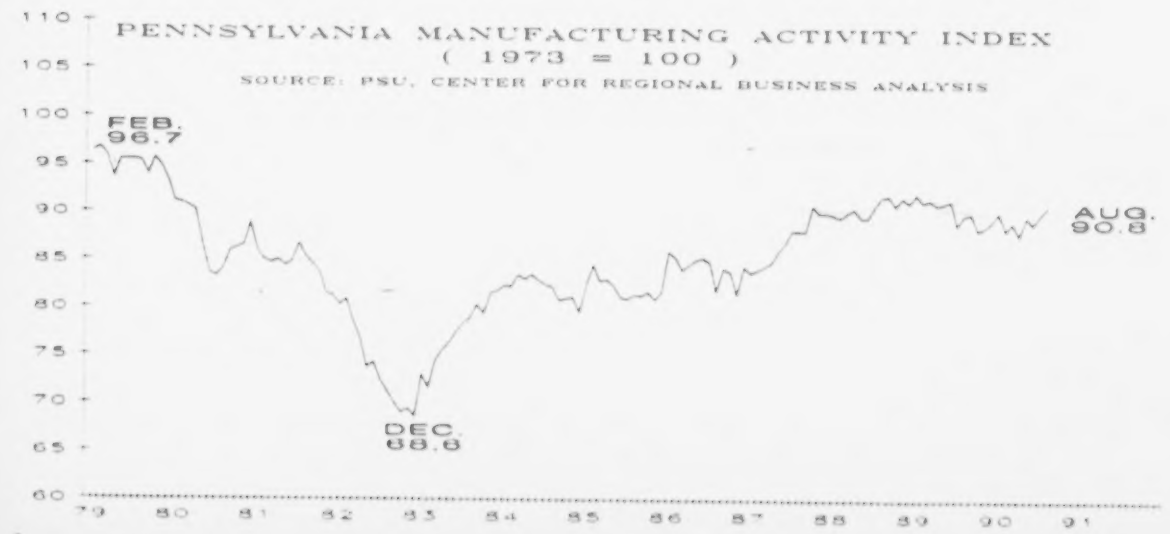
WEEKLY HOURS AND EARNINGS BOTH DOWN AGAIN

Pennsylvania factories paid their production workers an average of $447.82 during the middle week of August. This is $1.92 less than the comparable July figure. This loss of pay is the result of declines in the workweek which was down 0.1 of an hour and average hourly earnings which were off by 2 cents. The average workweek, at 40.6 hours, is still well above the 40 hour threshold where it begins to make more economic sense for many employers to layoff workers rather than further reduce the workweek. With many other signs pointing toward a possible recession, prudence requires a close watch on any shortening of the average workweek.

The August durable goods workweek was down 0.5 of an hour from July but remains strong at 41.5 hours. Only transportation, with a workweek of 38.8 hours, failed to meet the forty hour threshold. Lumber and wood products and furniture and fixtures continue to surprise with workweeks that exceed 40 hours in both of these industries that are dependent on the soft housing market. The durable goods workweek is down 0.4 of an hour from last year. Seven of the ten durable goods lines had shorter workweeks this August than last. Only miscellanous manufactures and instruments and related products had longer workweeks. Electrical and electronic equipment was unchanged.

The nondurable goods workweek, at 39.3 hours, was up 0.2 of an hour from July to August. Seven of the ten soft goods lines had longer August workweeks. Compared to last August, the average workweek is down 0.2 of an hour.

PENNSYLVANIA HOURS & EARNINGS
FOR MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS



UNEMPLOYMENT

TABLE 4
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION REGULAR PROGRAM
(Not seasonally adjusted)

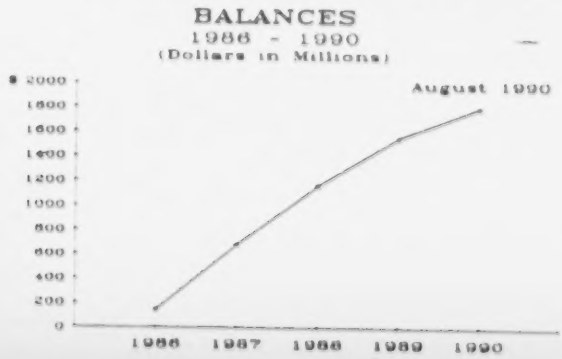
	AUG. 1990	JULY 1990	AUG. 1989	NET CHANGE FROM JULY 90	NET CHANGE FROM AUG. 89
CLAIMS ACTIVITY					
Initial Claims	87,454	106,487	72,789	-19,033	14,665
Weeks Claimed	596,478	649,433	538,497	-52,955	7,981
...Average Weekly Volume	129,669	147,598	117,065	-17,929	12,605
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.7%	3.0%	2.4%	-0.3	0.3
PAYMENT ACTIVITY					
First Payments	31,597	41,465	28,904	-9,868	2,693
Final Payments	10,584	10,153	9,016	431	1,568
Weeks Paid	587,891	522,351	483,985	65,540	103,906
Net Benefit Amount	$96,182,216	$88,988,521	$75,602,357	$7,193,695	$20,579,860
Average Check Amount	$163.61	$170.36	$156.21	-$6.76	$7.40

CLAIMS ACTIVITY SLOWS IN AUGUST

Claims totals underwent a sharp decline from July to August. Initial claims fell by 19,033 or 18 percent and weeks claimed fell by 52,955 or 8 percent. However, claims remained well above year-ago levels with initial claims up 14,665 or 20 percent from August 1989 and weeks claimed up 57,981 or 11 percent. The August claims totals were the highest for the month since 1985. The insured unemployment rate slipped to 2.7 percent in August from July's 3.0 percent.

Weeks paid rose from 522,351 in July to 587,891 in August, a 13 percent increase. The number of weeks paid during August in relation to the number of weekly claims processed during August jumped to 99 percent which was up from July's 80 percent. Despite a $6.76 drop in the average check amount from a month ago, the net benefit amount increased by $7.2 million from July to $96.2 million in August. The average check amount for August of $163.61 was the lowest since November 1989. Traditionally, the average check amount does drop to an annual low in August. During August, income to the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund far exceeded disbursements--$227 milllion compared to $96 million--which pushed cash reserves in the fund at the end of August to a record high of $1.8 billion.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TRUST FUND ACTIVITY



AUGUST 1990		
Income	$	226,920,894
Disbursements	$	96,180,923
Cash Reserves	$	1,798,347,827

UNEMPLOYMENT ... A GEOGRAPHIC VIEW

SIXTY-FIVE COUNTIES RECORD LOWER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Sixty-five of Pennsylvania's sixty-seven counties had lower unemployment rates in August than in July. Sullivan County, up 0.3 of a percentage point, recorded the only increase; Cumberland County was stable at 3.4 percent. For the most part, these decreases in unemployment were seasonal in nature. Those students who were unsuccessful in their job search, gave up and left the labor force by August. This caused decreases in the labor force and unemployment in nearly all counties.

Chester and Montgomery counties, at 3.1 percent, shared the lowest August unemployment rate. This is a reflection of the generally excellent overall health of the Philadelphia suburbs. At the other end of the scale was Greene County. Dominated by the weakness of the soft coal industry, Greene County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.8 percent.

Forty-eight of Pennsylvania's sixty-seven counties had higher unemployment rates this August than last. The largest increase, 2.5 percentage points, occurred in Sullivan County; the largest decrease, 2.9 percentage points, in Forest County. Both of these counties are so small that a very small change in the unemployment volume changes the rate substantially.

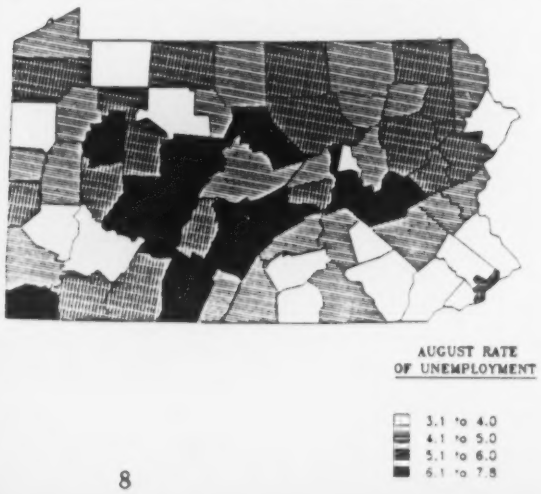


TABLE 5
PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES RANKED BY RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT
(Not seasonally adjusted, preliminary)
AUGUST 1990

COUNTY	RANK	RATE	VOLUME
Chester	1	3.1	6300
Montgomery	1	3.1	12000
Delaware	3	3.2	9200
Lancaster	4	3.3	7400
Adams	5	3.4	1300
Allegheny	5	3.4	22400
Bucks	5	3.4	10200
Cumberland	5	3.4	3900
Warren	5	3.4	800
Lebanon	10	3.5	2300
Montour	11	3.9	300
Elk	12	4.0	700
Mercer	12	4.0	2100
Pike	12	4.0	600
Westmoreland	12	4.0	7000
Columbia	16	4.1	1300
Dauphin	16	4.1	5700
Erie	16	4.1	5500
Washington	16	4.1	3800
Wayne	16	4.1	900
Berks	21	4.2	7500
Bradford	21	4.2	1300
Fulton	21	4.2	300
Lawrence	21	4.2	2000
Lehigh	21	4.2	6200
Butler	26	4.4	3300
Centre	26	4.4	2900
Franklin	26	4.4	2600
York	29	4.5	8300
Northampton	30	4.8	5600
Perry	30	4.8	1000
Potter	30	4.8	400
Venango	30	4.8	1200
Cameron	34	4.9	100
Union	34	4.9	900
Sullivan	36	5.0	200
Wyoming	36	5.0	700
Lackawanna	38	5.1	5600
Lycoming	38	5.1	3100
Susquehanna	38	5.1	900
Monroe	41	5.2	2600
Philadelphia	41	5.2	37900
Blair	43	5.3	3200
Forest	43	5.3	100
Snyder	43	5.3	1000
Somerset	43	5.3	1700
Carbon	47	5.4	1300
Crawford	47	5.4	2100
Jefferson	47	5.4	1100
Tioga	47	5.4	1000
McKean	51	5.6	1200
Fayette	52	5.7	3300
Luzerne	53	5.8	9300
Armstrong	54	5.9	1700
Beaver	55	6.0	3500
Mifflin	56	6.1	1300
Schuylkill	56	6.1	4500
Cambria	58	6.3	4000
Northumberland	58	6.3	3100
Clarion	60	6.4	1100
Juniata	60	6.4	700
Indiana	62	6.9	2300
Bedford	63	7.0	1500
Clearfield	64	7.1	2400
Huntingdon	65	7.2	1400
Clinton	66	7.3	1100
Greene	67	7.8	1000

TABLE 6
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT VOLUME AND RATE
BY MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREA IN PENNSYLVANIA
(Seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

AREA	AUGUST 1990 * UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	AUGUST 1990 * UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%	JULY 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	JULY 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%	AUGUST 1989 UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	AUGUST 1989 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%
UNITED STATES	7003.0	5.6	6814.0	5.5	6520.0	5.3
PENNSYLVANIA	281.0	4.9	295.0	5.0	254.0	4.4
LABOR MARKET AREA						
ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA	17.2	5.3	17.0	5.2	14.0	4.4
ALTOONA MSA	3.9	6.5	4.8	7.8	3.7	6.3
BEAVER COUNTY PMSA	4.0	6.9	4.1	7.0	4.1	7.0
ERIE MSA	6.4	4.8	6.6	4.9	6.3	4.8
HARRISBURG-LEB-CARLISLE MSA	14.3	4.3	13.6	4.0	11.9	3.6
JOHNSTOWN MSA	6.3	6.7	6.9	7.3	6.8	7.2
LANCASTER MSA	8.6	3.9	8.5	3.8	7.0	3.2
PHILADELPHIA PMSA	103.4	4.3	106.8	4.4	89.3	3.7
PITTSBURGH PMSA	40.7	4.2	40.0	4.1	41.4	4.3
READING MSA	8.9	5.0	8.7	4.9	6.5	3.3
SCRANTON--WILKES-BARRE MSA	22.6	6.3	23.4	6.4	19.6	5.4
SHARON MSA	2.3	4.5	2.7	5.2	2.0	4.1
STATE COLLEGE MSA	3.4	5.2	3.6	5.3	2.9	4.4
WILLIAMSPORT MSA	3.9	6.5	3.6	5.9	3.5	6.0
YORK MSA	10.2	4.7	10.5	4.7	10.1	4.6

* Preliminary data

CHANGES IN AUGUST'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED RATES VARY AMONG LABOR MARKET AREAS

August's seasonally adjusted unemployment rates were up in six areas, down in eight, and unchanged in one. The rates ranged from a low of 3.9 percent in Lancaster MSA to a high of 6.9 percent in Beaver County PMSA. Williamsport MSA, up 0.6 of a percentage point, recorded the largest increase; Altoona MSA, down 1.3 percentage points the largest decrease.

Many of the students who entered the labor force in May and June, and who were unsuccessful in their job search, gave up by mid-August. This resulted in decreases in both the labor force and the volume of unemployment. Some students whose jobs ended also left the labor force, which lowered employment. The mixed signals emanating from unemployment rates are, in large part, a product of these factors.

Eleven of Pennsylvania's fifteen major labor market areas had higher seasonally adjusted unemployment rates this August than last. Three areas had lower rates and one was unchanged. As was the case in July, the three areas with lower over-the-year rates were all in the southwest corner of the state. They were Johnstown MSA and Pittsburgh and Beaver County PMSAs. Reading MSA, up 1.7

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

TABLE 7
MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
AUGUST 1990 --- PRELIMINARY
(DATA NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, VOLUME IN THOUSANDS)

SDA NO.	COUNTIES	LABOR FORCE	EMP.	UNEMP.	RATE(%)
01	Erie	134.4	128.9	5.5	4.1
02	Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren	104.7	99.5	5.2	5.0
03	City of Pittsburgh	173.6	167.1	6.5	3.8
04	Allegheny County minus City of Pittsburgh	486.3	470.5	15.8	3.3
05	Beaver	58.1	54.6	3.5	6.0
06	Armstrong, Butler, Indiana	136.2	128.9	7.3	5.4
07	Fayette, Westmoreland	232.8	222.5	10.3	4.4
08	Greene, Washington	105.6	100.9	4.8	4.5
09	Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter	102.3	96.4	5.8	5.7
10	Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset	203.1	191.0	12.1	5.9
11	Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Snyder, Union	231.6	220.0	11.7	5.0
13	Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming	84.5	80.4	4.1	4.8
14	Lackawanna	110.4	104.8	5.6	5.1
15	Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Wayne	112.8	107.4	5.5	4.8
16	Luzerne, Schuylkill	235.6	221.7	13.8	5.9
17	Philadelphia	728.8	690.9	37.9	5.2
18	Bucks	298.1	288.0	10.2	3.4
19	Montgomery	388.0	376.0	12.0	3.1
20	Delaware	290.1	280.9	9.2	3.2
21	Chester	200.8	194.5	6.3	3.1
22	Lehigh, Northampton	264.6	252.7	11.8	4.5
23	Berks	177.5	170.0	7.5	4.2
24	Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry	353.5	339.8	13.7	3.9
25	Lancaster	224.6	217.2	7.4	3.3
26	York	182.9	174.7	8.3	4.5
27	Adams, Franklin	98.7	94.7	4.0	4.0
28	Lawrence, Mercer	100.0	96.0	4.1	4.1
29	Montour, Northumberland	57.1	53.7	3.4	6.0
	PENNSYLVANIA - TOTAL	5877.0	5624.0	253.0	4.3

A Service Delivery Area is a geographical planning region defined by the Job Training Partnership Act

SPECIAL TOPIC

ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION!....(WELL ALMOST)

Did you know that Pennsylvania's unemployment compensation program paid $994 million in benefits during 1989 which was the third highest in the country behind California and New York? Or that Pennsylvania's maximum unemployment weekly benefit rate of $280 is the second highest in the United States?

This, and other related information comes from the September 1990, Department of Labor and Industry's annual publication entitled "Pennsylvania's Unemployment Insurance Program Compared To Other States." Utilizing state and federal source material, this publication compares provisions of our Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law with those of all fifty states and the District of Columbia. The comparisons are made in the areas of benefits, taxes, and the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund, encompassing both legislative provisions and program activities. This publication is very comprehensive, complete with definitions and rankings of Pennsylvania data whenever possible. The benefit section alone contains sixteen tables comparing legislative provisions and twelve tables of program operation comparisons. Also included is a listing of recent significant changes to other states' Unemployment Compensation Laws in 1989 and 1990, and a special section on Short Time Compensation/Worksharing Programs.

Worksharing is a program designed to give employers an alternative to laying off employes during short term economic downturns. For example, an employer faced with a potential 20 percent reduction to his work force may opt instead to reduce all employes' work time by 20 percent, with lost wages partially offset by workshare benefits. Workshare programs are in operation in fourteen states with California having pioneered the program in 1978 and Massachusetts being the latest to adopt the program in 1988. Pennsylvania does not have a workshare program at present but information about workshare is included because of widespread interest in the program.

Further information about the publication and its contents may be obtained by calling the Research and Statistics Information Line at telephone (717) 787-6466 or by mail through Department of Labor and Industry, Room 1223, Seventh and Forster Streets, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17121.

Highlighted below are some data items of interest from each section:

FROM THE BENEFITS SECTION:

1. Pennsylvania's minimum weekly benefit rate of $35 is situated at approximately the mid-point between states, with a ranking of 24th in the nation. This compares to the highest minimum of $61 paid by Washington state and the lowest of $5 paid by Hawaii.

2. Pennsylvania is one of only 14 states who augment benefits to laid-off workers with dependents. Most states ignore family status when determining benefit entitlement.

3. Only two states in 1990, exceed Pennsylvania's 26-week unemployment compensation potential duration of benefit payments.

4. Six states have an average weekly benefit amount that is higher than Pennsylvania's $182 in 1989.

FROM THE TAX SECTION:

1. Twenty-five states have a higher unemployment compensation taxable wage base than Pennsylvania's $8,000 in 1990.

2. Pennsylvania's employers paid $1.2 billion into the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund in 1989, the third highest among the states.

3. Eleven states had a higher average weekly wage in unemployment compensation covered employment during 1989 than Pennsylvania's $426.

4. Pennsylvania had the sixth largest unemployment compensation covered employment volume in the nation during 1989 at 4,825,413 employes.

5. The average unemployment compensation tax per employe in the state for 1989, estimated at $280, ranked eighth in the nation.

FROM THE TRUST FUND SECTION:

1. At the end of 1989, the Trust Fund balance for Pennsylvania was over $1.6 billion.

2. Michigan was the only state at the end of 1989 to have an outstanding unemployment compensation debt with the federal government.

3. At the end of 1989, Pennsylvania had over 19 months of benefits in its Trust Fund based on benefit payments during 1989.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Civilian Labor Force - Estimated number of persons 16 years of age and over, employed or unemployed during week including 12th of month, distributed by place of residence.

Total Employed - Includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agricultural workers, and persons involved in labor disputes. Employment distributed by place of residence.

Total Unemployed - Estimated number of persons, by place of residence, who did not work during reference week and were looking for work, whether or not eligible for unemployment compensation. Includes those who did not work and were waiting to be called back to an old job or to report to a new job.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Collection - Nonagricultural wage and salary employment as well as hours and earnings estimates based on monthly reports from sample of employers. Under cooperative arrangement with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Research & Statistics of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, mails, edits, and processes reports, which are subsequently incorporated in national data.

Industrial Classification - Employer establishments classified by industry on basis of their principal product or service. The Standard Industrial Classification Manual (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C., 1987) used for classification.

Nonagricultural Employment - A count of jobs by place of work. Includes persons on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation. Excluded are persons laid off, on strike, or on unpaid vacation during entire reporting period. Proprietors, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, farm workers, and domestic workers also excluded. Government employment covers only civilian employes. Full-time teachers considered employed during the summer vacation period, whether or not paid in those months.

Benchmark Data - Employment estimates compared annually with complete count of employment, by industry. Where revisions necessary, monthly estimates adjusted to new benchmark. Following revisions to new benchmark, industry data projected forward to current month by use of sample trends. Basic source of benchmark information is tabulations of employment data, by industry and area, compiled from contribution reports of employers covered under Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law.

Hours and Earnings

Method of Computing Averages - Average hours computed by dividing total production worker hours worked during one week (the seven-day period which includes 12th of month) by num-ber of production workers for week. Average hourly earnings computed by dividing total production worker payroll for one week by total production worker hours for week. Average weekly earnings derived by multiplying average hourly earnings by average weekly hours.

Definitions - Definitions of production or similar workers, payroll, and hours - from which average hours and earnings data are derived - follow:

Production Workers - Includes working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspection, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (such as power plant), and record keeping and other services closely associated with production operations.

Payroll - Represents payroll for full- and part-time production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers who received pay for any part of pay periods which include 12th of month. Payroll is reported before deductions for Social Security, group insurance, withholding tax, bonds, and union dues; also includes pay for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave paid directly by the firm.

Hours - Represents hours worked or paid, during pay periods which include 12th of month, for production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers. Hours include time paid for holidays and vacations, and for sick leave when pay received directly from firm.

Unemployment Compensation

Initial Claims - Notices of unemployment filed to request a determination of entitlement to compensation in a new benefit year (period of eligibility) following a period of employment or to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within the benefit year following interim employment within the benefit year.

Weeks Claimed - Requests for benefits filed by claimants which certify to the fact the claimants experienced total, partial, or part-total unemployment for given weeks.

Average Weekly Claims - Total number of weeks claimed in a month divided by the number of weeks in the month.

Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) - Ratio of the average weekly number of persons claiming unemployment compensation benefits within the given month to average annual covered employment. Calculated by dividing the month's average weekly continued weeks claimed by average annual covered employment. Average annual covered employment is estimated until six months after year's end due to a lag in reporting covered employment.

First Payment - First benefit check a claimant receives for a week of unemployment in a benefit year.

Weeks Paid - Weeks claimed which were paid to eligible claimants upon certification that unemployment compensation qualifying unemployment was experienced during given weeks.

Net Benefit Amount - Amount of regular unemployment compensation benefits paid to claimants, after adjusting for returned and redeposited benefit checks.

Income - Amount of funds deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including employer and employe contributions, transfers from other sources such as the Special Admin. istration Fund, redeposited unemployment compensation checks, federal benefit program reimbursements, loans, and interest earnings.

Disbursements - Amount of funds disbursed from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including the payment of state unemployment compensation benefits, federal program benefits, refunds, and voluntary federal loan repayments.

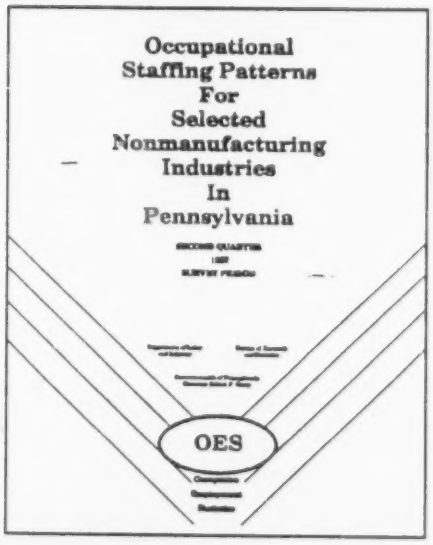
Cash Reserves - Amount of funds available in the State's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund available to pay unemployment compensation benefits.

LMI ALERT

PENNSYLVANIA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

October 1990

* Announcing *



Employers, *review your firm's occupational structure with industry averages and see how you compare . . . . . includes occupational employment distributions by two digit industry codes for mining, construction, FIRE and most service industries.* *

The Bureau of Research and Statistics collects, analyzes and distributes labor market information for Pennsylvania and sub-state areas.

For additional information inquiries should be made to your local Labor Market Analyst listed on the inside front cover or:

Mr. John G. Pretz, Information Officer
Bureau of Research and Statistics
Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
7th and Forster Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17121
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* **Notes: FIRE is finance, insurance and real estate industries.**
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